

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

Memorial Day Field Mass

MAY 29, 2017



In Memory of Our Beloved Chaplain



Admired and loved by our cemetery staffs and all who have had the pleasure to have known him, Reverend Ralph J. Guarracino, who served as the chaplain of St. John Cemetery for more than 35 years, was called to God's care quietly in the sacristy of the St. John Cemetery Chapel on the morning of June 2, 2016. He was preparing to say Mass to his small congregation, who attended Mass at the cemetery daily. During his time as chaplain, Father Guarracino conducted literally thousands of committal services for those who suffered the loss of a loved one, and provided the comforting words that were so greatly appreciated by the families he served.

Affectionately known as 'Father Ralph' or 'Poppy' to the cemetery staff, Father Guarracino was born in Brooklyn and was ordained a priest in 1954. Prior to Long Island being under the jurisdiction of the Rockville Centre Diocese, his first assignments were in Mastic Beach and Glen Cove. He was later assigned to Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in South Ozone Park, and then was named

as Chaplain to Brooklyn Hospital in the Fort Greene area. He was also appointed as administrator of St. Frances de Chantal in Brooklyn.

In 1980, he began his tenure at the cemetery, where he made long and lasting friendships with both the staff and regular visitors.

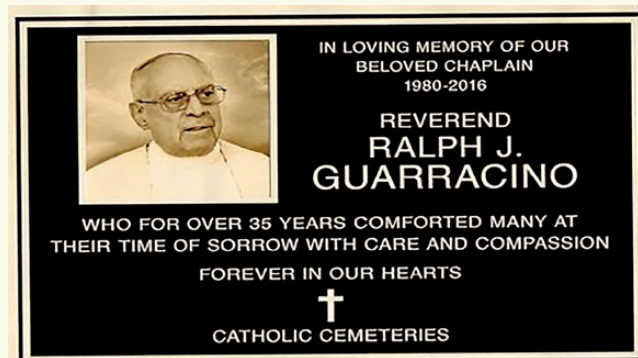
Father Guarracino was definitely a people person; he loved his family and the time he spent with them. He always had the time to listen to everyone and offered his advice and assistance on anything from his favorite recipes to their most personal problems. He enjoyed engaging in conversation and could virtually discuss any topic, including what his beloved New York Mets should be doing in order to win baseball games. All that were blessed to have known him understood that he was there for them, and he would do his best to comfort and assist them.

Father Guarracino was also a very generous man. He would frequently bring in pastries, cakes and treats for the cemetery staff. There was never a time, when given an award or recognition from

the cemetery that Father Guarracino did not reciprocate by treating the staff to something the very next day.

Father Guarracino would often say that he never wanted to retire. On the morning of June 2nd, he passed away in St John Cemetery's Chapel doing what he loved. Although he will be always dearly missed by his family and friends, we take comfort in knowing that Father Guarracino's wishes were fulfilled and his prayers answered.

A bronze plaque has been erected at the entrance of the chapel in St. John Cemetery commemorating Father Guarracino's work as the cemetery's chaplain. It was dedicated on December 7th by Msgr. Michael J. Reid, Spiritual Moderator and Chief Executive Officer of the cemeteries following a memorial Mass offered for Father Guarracino. Msgr. Reid, who had known Father Guarracino for many years, spoke of his own memories and all the good that Father Guarracino had done during his ministry as a priest. He will never be forgotten and will forever remain in our hearts.



Bronze Memorial at the entrance of St. John Cemetery Chapel

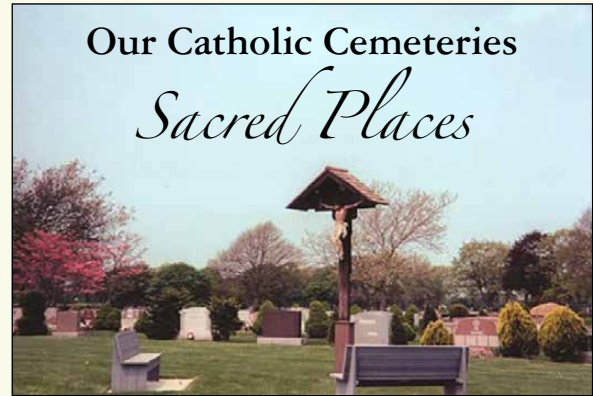


Memorial Day

Let us always remember the spirit and courage of our brave men and women as they fought and sacrificed their lives out of a love for their country and to maintain our nation's principles and freedom.

Memorial Day each year provides a unique opportunity to pause and reflect, with pride and respect, on those individuals who have put their lives in harm's way to keep us free.

By observing the significance of Memorial Day, we ensure that their memory and spirit will remain forever in our hearts.



Our Catholic Cemeteries *Sacred Places*

Our Catholic Cemeteries recognize the deep religious significance of the Corporal Work of Mercy involved in the burial of the dead and our reverence for the deceased.

Even more than a Work of Mercy, the distinctive care we give our final resting place, recognizes that a Catholic Cemetery lets us live, die and rest in Christ.

We will be in a shared community, no matter how varied and diverse our lives....we belong to God our Creator.

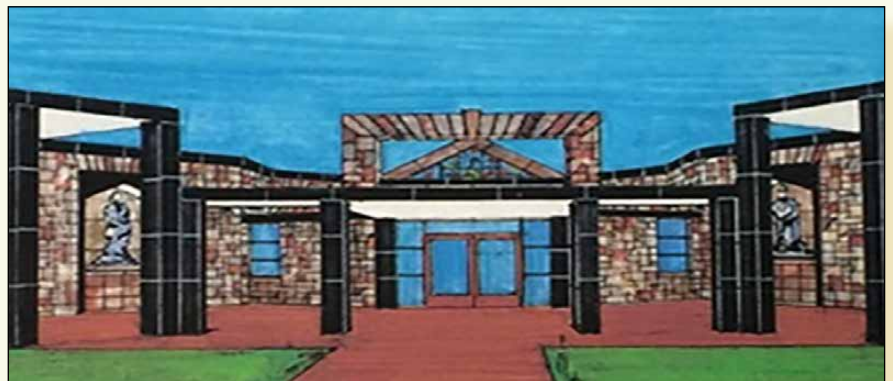
The Catholic Cemetery is an integral part of the Catholic Church, its ceremonies and its services. The religious significance of the Cemetery holds true today as it ever did in the past. It is comforting to know that our Catholic Cemeteries remain unchanged in the unique position they occupy in the Church and in our faith.

Watch for the opening of the new **'CHRIST THE KING' Mausoleum** at St. Charles Cemetery, Farmingdale, Long Island

In response to an increasing demand for both indoor and outdoor crypt space and cremation niche space at St. Charles Cemetery, both planning and construction are nearing completion of the new Christ the King Mausoleum.

Located in the central part of the cemetery, this new complex will compliment the existing community mausoleums and will contain just over 2,000 cryptsites to choose from. Sites will be offered as single, double and family units.

In addition, for those who wish to choose cremation as an alternative to traditional entombment, this mausoleum will also contain an approximate total of 950 interior and exterior niche spaces and some interior sites will provide glass front units.



The mausoleum reveals a reverent religious atmosphere consisting of stained-glass windows, artwork and exquisite statuary.

Specific details and information will become available soon.

It is not too early to leave your name

and address to be notified when information becomes available.

Contact the sales department at St. Charles/Resurrection Cemeteries at (631) 249-8700.

No representative will visit your home.